

Minutes: Leesburg Tree Commission March 17, 2003

The Leesburg Tree Commission met on Monday, March 17, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, VA. Staff present for the meeting was Jay Banks.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioner Hower
Commissioner Bessa
Commissioner Perry
Commissioner Peterson
Commissioner Pritchard

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of February 24, 2003 as amended.

Motion: Peterson
Second: Pritchard
Carried: 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Julie Overman stated that she would like to invite the Tree Commission to the Shade Tree Steward's meeting on April 9 at 7:00. She also stated that she talked to Bonnie Appleton about the How to Kill a Tree poster and that Bonnie sent her an 8 ½ x 11 black and white version.

Bruce Dewar commented to the Tree Commission about the Rt. 15 widening project.

Commissioner Peterson commented that he was on the Rt. 15 safety committee for a couple of years and stated that Rt. 15 does need some turn lanes.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Banks talked about the Tree Stewardship Application and stated that the Traffic Engineer submitted a draft of an Adopt a Tree permit that would allow citizens to adopt a tree in the public right-of-way.

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Commission members talked about the Tree Stewardship Application and the Adopt a Tree permit.

Commissioner Hower stated he would like to amend the agenda and add two items under old business, Council meeting report and Plant a Tree program. He asked if any one that attended the Council meeting had anything to report.

Commissioner Pritchard stated that the Council members were in agreement with the plan to replace the Kousa Dogwoods, then she asked if Mr. Banks would like to give an update about the trees.

Mr. Banks stated that the Town Council unanimously adopted the recommendations of the Tree Commission to plant in the interchange with a mixture of species.

The Commission talked about the interchange design and how they could get money to replant the trees in the interchanges.

Commissioner Hower asked if there was anything to report about the Plant A Tree for Me program.

Commissioner Perry stated that she was working on a project to get the kids to plant trees at the schools, on the 19th she has a meeting to present the concept to see how many people would be interested in the project.

The Commission talked about who would be able to attend Arbor Day on Saturday April 12th and help with the set up.

The Commission discussed the status of the intern.

Mr. Banks stated that he had received two applications.

Mr. Banks stated that the Town Plan is being updated and the first step is to audit the 1997 Town Plan and the Tree Commission will be a stakeholder with the environmental section.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Pritchard talked about the trees at the entrance to Balls Bluff Park that had a sign from Parks and Recreation bolted to it and stated that there is also a chain on the trees that was put up by the previous owner.

Commissioner Peterson stated that he has been attending the Urban Growth Area meeting.

Commissioner Hower gave an update on the Ida Lee Riparian Buffer and stated that the trees survived.

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COUNCILMANIC COMMENTS:

None

STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Banks stated he got the Tree City USA award for 2002 and a press release should be coming out soon about Arbor Day in the Leesburg Today.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Pritchard made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Pritchard

Second: Perry

Carried: 5-0

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Jay S. Banks, Urban Forester